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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/903,011	07/11/2001	Koichi Chotoku	275761US6	9054

22850 7590 10/19/2005

OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
1940 DUKE STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, HUY THANH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2616

DATE MAILED: 10/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/903,011

Applicant(s)

CHOTOKU ET AL

Examiner

HUY T. NGUYEN

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 2 is objected to because of the following informalities: "&" line 1 should be changed to – and --. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1 and 3-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hibi (5,546,191).

Regarding claim 1, Hibi teaches a video-signal recording & playback apparatus for recording and playing back a video signal of a television-broadcast program, said video-signal recording & playback apparatus comprising:

a detection means for detecting relevant information related to a program being recorded (column 25, lines 27-48) ; and

a modification means for automatically modifying an algorithm of detecting a program-representing picture (a picture of multi screen)(column 25, lines 45-68).

Method claims 3-4 correspond to apparatus claim 1. Therefore method claims 3-4 are rejected by the same reason as applied to apparatus claims 1.

4. Claims 1 and 3-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chotoku et al (6,728,473).

Regarding claim 1, Chotoku teaches a video-signal recording & playback apparatus for recording and playing back a video signal of a television-broadcast program, said video-signal recording & playback apparatus comprising:

a detection means for detecting relevant information related to a program being recorded (column 8, lines 37-60) ; and

a modification means for automatically modifying an algorithm of detecting a program-representing picture .

Method claims 3-4 correspond to apparatus claim 1. Therefore method claims 3-4 are rejected by the same reason as applied to apparatus claim 1.

Regarding claim 2, Chotoku further teaches the video-signal recording & playback apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said detection means is capable of detecting information on a genre of a program being recorded.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

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5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

6. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hibi et al in view of Takatori (6,252,629).

Regarding claim 2, Hibi fails to teach that the detecting means further detects information on a genre of a program being recorded.

Takatori teaches a recording apparatus having a detection means being capable of detecting information on genre of a program being recorded (column 8 lines 10-55).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Hibi with Takatori by using a detecting means as taught by Takatori with the apparatus of Hibi

for detecting information on genre of the program being recorder in order to easily classify the recorded programs.

7. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chotoku et al (6,728,473) et al in view of Takatori (6,252,629).

Regarding claim 2, Chotoku fails to teach that a detecting means further detects information on a genre of a program being recorded.

Takatori teaches a recording apparatus having a detection means being capable of detecting information on genre of a program being recorded (column 8 lines 10-55).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Chotoku with Takatori by using a detecting means as taught by Takatori with the apparatus of Chotoku for detecting information on genre of program being recorded in order to easily classify the recorded programs .

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Shimazaki and Nagasaka et al teaches apparatus for generating representative pictures for a program.

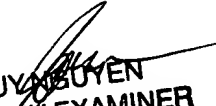
9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUY T. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571) 272-7378. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM -6:00PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Groody can be reached on (571) 272-7950. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

H.N


HUY NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER